



NEWS RELEASE

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Inglewood Woman, Friend Charged with Conspiracy to Attack Landlord

A 30-year-old Inglewood woman and a male friend have been charged with conspiracy and assault after she allegedly arranged for the man to attack her landlord, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Ashley Melissa Butts (dob 4/15/86) and Israel Rios (dob 4/25/79) were charged and arrested today in case BA447486. Arraignment information will be announced later.

Deputy District Attorney Jonathan Chung with the Major Crimes Division is prosecuting the case.

Butts allegedly had disputes with her landlord shortly after moving into his home in the 3300 block of West 78th Street.

According to the felony complaint, Butts arranged for an Uber driver to transport Rios and a John Doe to the West 78th Street residence on April 30 to assault the victim.

Butts and Rios exchanged text messages shortly before Rios knocked on the door and assaulted the victim with a metal bat. During the assault, Rios or John Doe discharged a firearm at the victim, according to the complaint.

Butts and Rios are charged with one felony count each of assault by means likely to produce great bodily injury, conspiracy to commit assault and first-degree burglary with a person present. The complaint alleges Rios personally used a firearm, a revolver, and caused great bodily injury.

If convicted, Butts is facing up to seven years in state prison. Rios is facing up to 22 years in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department's Robbery-Homicide Division.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.